

CARRY NO BANNERS

ISSUE #1
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A ZINE
FOR A DEAD
GENERATION

INSIDE: KLASSE KRIMINALE,
ANTI-HEROS, THE BRUISERS,
THE HERBERTS, THE INSTEPS,
NOGOBO NOGOBO, AGENT BULLDOG,
STEVE PRIEST FAN CLUB...
PLUS NEWS, REVIEWS + MORE!!

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Hello and Welcome to the first issue of CARRY NO BANNERS. Were a fanzine by skins for everyone. We hope to bring you updates, record, video, and book reviews as well as a indept interviews. Our interest lies in Oi, Punk, and Ska. In issues to come we are going to try and start conducting "history of" articles about old soul bands, as well as any old mod bands. As for our format we try to be non-political, non-racist, non-religious, and non-sexist. Our aim is to contribute as much as possible to our interests and try to keep the scene going. The writers of this zine are not ignorant to world problems. We do have our own individual beliefs, we simply do not feel that this is the place our the time to go on about circumstances we have no control over. Also we do not feel that this zine should be used as a soap box of persuasion. And besides who wants to waste their money on a zine and listen to us complain!! We reserve the right not to print any material that we don't see as fit. We will not print racist material. This is not to say we are for or against we just do not want any part of it. This area has the right to freedom of expression through their own means, not ours. Thank You (Ray)

STAFF: As of now we have three writers; Perry, Ray and new arrival Justin. Perry 27 (IL) was the editor and chief of BOOTPARTY and a writer of WELCOME TO THE REAL WORLD. He works full time as a mail room supervisor. Ray 23 (FL) was a writer in STREET REBEL as well as a writer for WELCOME TO THE REALWORLD. He is a student of Philosophy and Psychology at the Univeristy of Tampa and works at Ups. The baby of the group Justin 18 (NY) plays in the Insteps and goes to school at Fordham University and works various odd jobs.

CONTRIBUTORS: We want you!! Send all letters, artwork, news, photos etc to our address.

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BULK RATES: If you would like to sell CARRY NO BANNERS in your area you can order them from us for \$1.00 per issue(U.S.) minimum order 10 issues. Outside the U.S. write us for rates.
Bands and Record labels send releases for review. Fanzines-lets trade.

DISCLAIMER: The views expressed by the interviews and articles contained in this zine are not necessarily those of the staff. Yeah!!

Thank you
C.N.B. Bootboys

Perry wishes to thank

All the bands that appear in this issue, Thomas(SOS-BOTE), Tyler(SONIC AGGRO), Bohdan & United Front, Tom, Melissa, Phil, Eric(FRANCE), Andi, Tim & Sam, Steve, Pete & Steve (Groove records) and everyone else who made my visit to England an unforgettable experience. all fanzine writers(we are the real media!), all true skins everywhere and you for reading this zine.

Ray wishes to thank

Justin(welcome aboard), Chad(Bitter Grin), John(Steve Priest), Jeff and the rest of the Bruisers, Mark Noah and the Anti heroes, Matt Knopp for pictures, Peter(Groove records), Alex(Last Chance), Sheffield Dave, and most importantly everyone for keeping it all going. And a special thanx to the fanzine of Leeds United "Marching Altogether" for letting me write an article, keep up the great work. Reclaim the Game!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

And a collective special big thanx to the back bone of this fanzine, our girlfriends AC and Omi. With out their patience, translation skills, and computer knowledge none of this would have been possible.

WELCOME TO THE REAL WORLD

A SLAP OF REALITY

As many of you know by now Perry and I use to write for WTTRW. And many of you probably got ripped off! Well here's the story to date. Before WTTRW came about, I did a zine called STREET REBEL. I started writing to Sean Hudson who at the time was doing BULLDOG PROMTIONS(Chelmsford). After reading articles in LAST CHANCE and BRITISH OI warning people about dealing with him, and being a sucker I gave him a chance.

I never got ripped off in the beginning. Then Sean approached me about helping getting WTTRW off the ground. It sounded good and he seemed decent. Wrong! I spent two weeks with Sean in Chelmsford last summer. Sean set me up with over priced record deals. The over weight slob is to lazy to walk, so we had to take fucking taxis everywhere. Usually at my expense. Sean is not even into the music. To him the zine was money. And where did your money go? Not in the zine, but in his fat gut. We all got the shaft.

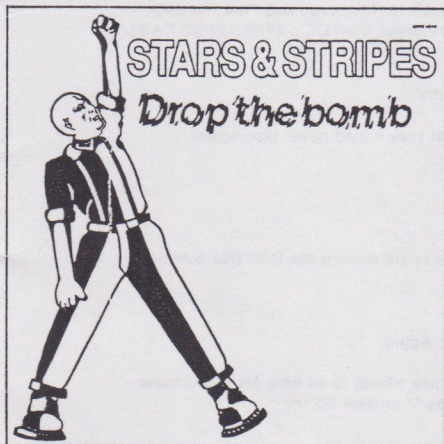
I also noticed he has a lot of enemies, and in his own words, "I have to constantly watch my back". He promises people records, takes the money and never delivers. He would screw over the Merc and Sherry's fashion on merchandise, and hide outside as I went in !!!

Sean does not have a job, he also is out of a place to live. And he ripped his own girlfriend off for about a \$180.00 phone bill. Total scum bag. While in England I paid for records up front for Perry, Myself and another friend. The package never showed up, then he promised me more records. I sent around \$200.00, never to see any merchandise. He even had the nerve to say that I refused his package, and it was returned to him. Why would I refuse my own package? Our last conversation(4months ago) ended like this; "Oh yeah don't worry Ray, I mailed the package this morning". I guess the check is in the mail!!

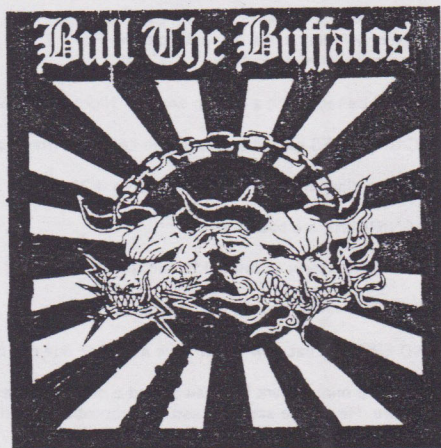
As far as the zine goes, we NEVER sold as many as Sean claimed. Also the psychobilly "Dell" never existed, Sean made him up. I can not stress enough to avoid anything Sean Hudson is connected with! Friends of mine in Chicago, New York and New Jersey, as well as countless others were victims So beware.

Perry and I want to rid ourselves of anything related to WTTRW. Our goal is to have a zine of quality not crookery. If anybody knows the whereabouts of Mr. Sean Hudson, we would appreciate any info. We know he hangs out at a pub right out side the train station in Chelmsford. I will be back in England in August. I would really like to take care of business. If anybody else got ripped off write us a letter and we'll print it in the zine. If anyone should run across Sean, we might offer a reward. He is short, fat, going bald on top, brown curls in back shoulder length, and wears a lot of gold chains and rings. Looks like a promoter or pimp!!! Acts like both!!!!!!

THE STEVE PRIEST FAN CLUB STREET ROCK & ROLL RECORD COMPANY INC.
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OUT 7/15: STARS & STRIPES 7"



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NEWS OF THE WORLD

NYC's OXBLOOD has a 7" due out on Headache records. They also have a track on SPE record's compilation.

The BRUISERS are hibernating to record their 1st full length album. Update! they have finished the 10 song lp and it should be out in late Aug.

Sonic Aggression may have a label compilation due out in the future.

The new oi band THE SYSTEM have a release scheduled for Sonic Aggro . Unsure if it is a cassette or 7".

This summer, look for DOJO (UK) Box sets with a Blue Beat years comp, plus albums by PRINCE BUSTER, OWEN GRAY, DERRICK MORGAN, and LAUREL AITKEN!

The ADICTS should be touring the U.S. sometime soon. The lp '27' has still not been released in the UK.

As many know Link is finished(RIP). Now a new label has risen from the ashes; Captain Oi!

Supposedly CHRON GEN, ANTI PASTI and THE CRACK have reformed.

THE GUTTERSNIPEs have a new lp out called 'Asylum'.

VACANT LOT has broken up due to personality conflicts. Chad and the boys (minus Griffin) have started a new band called BITTER GRIN.

BLITZ have a new 7" entitled 'New Breed'. Tracks from 'Killing Dream' Boo!

Chelsea have a new lp out entitled 'Alternative'

GERMANY...FUN REPUBLIC, the former lead ginger of SKAOS, has a cool new five song tape. Shark Promotions, Rugendasstr 4a, D-8900 Augsburg, Germany.

SKAFERLATINE have released their fast paced debut cd 'En Piste' on Bird rec.

The DANCE HALL CRASHERS and HEPCAT both have new cds available on Moon rec and Pork Pie (UK). SlugTone rec will release the new cd from the PIETASTERS, plus the debut from DC's CHECKERED CABS. 3323 Wessynton Way Alexandria, VA 22309.

UK SUBS will be recording a new lp entitled 'Night of the Werewolves'.

ANGELIC UPSTARTS played a quiet gig in London. After stating that they would never play again!

THE ELITE are planning a new release, unsure if 7" or lp!

THE MAGNIFICENT are back together

RED ALERT have a new lp entitled 'Blood Sweat and Beers'. They also are touring the U.S. this summer.

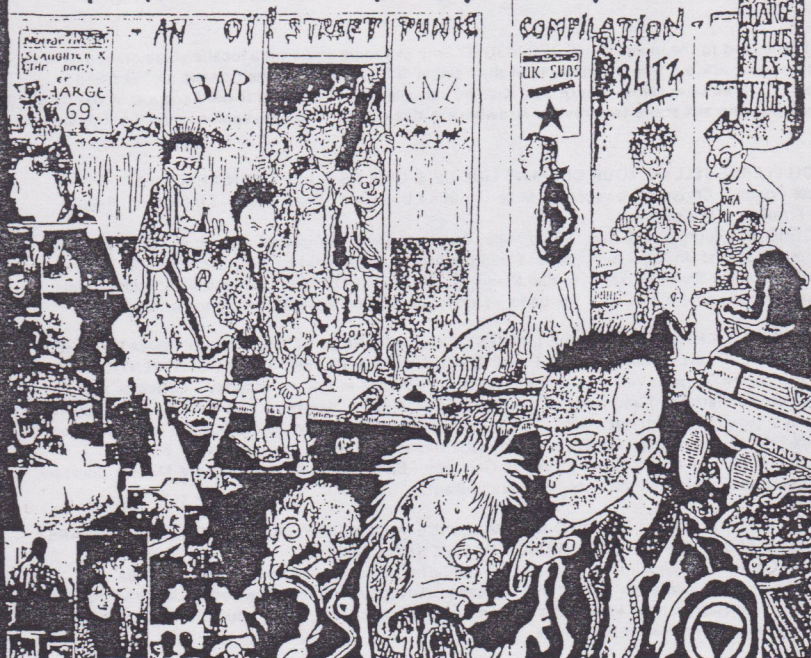
The EXPLOITED have a new lp in the making.

PIST AND BROKE(great new band) have a release due out on Sonic Aggro.

THE BUSINESS minus Mark Brennan played a one off secret gig to pay tribute to all time great footballer Bobby Moore. He will be sadly missed. His contribution will never be forgotten! 66!!!!

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NGOBO NGOBO

I was first introduced to the music of NGOBO NGOBO on a ska radio show on a local college station. I was quite taken by the quick but smooth rhythms of their single "I Feel Fine" and their tracks on "Ska Ska Skandal Vol. 3." Their new demo "We're Just Kidding" should help push them toward the top of the heap of Germany's bustling ska scene (see review elsewhere in this issue). Enough yapping, read the interview. (By Perry)

WOULD YOU PLEASE TELL US YOUR CURRENT LINE-UP & GIVE US A BRIEF BAND HISTORY?

Urs - l. vocal / guitar, Christian - b. vocals, Mike - drums / b. vocals, Bime - keyb. / b. vocals, Filip - bass, Oli - l. guitar, Flo - sax

NGOBO NGOBO was formed in Spring '89 by Mike, Christian, Urs. We started playing at friend's parties performing cover songs. In '91 a new sax and lead guitar joined the band to the current line-up. After playing at the Potsdam SKA-Festival with Bad Manners, NGOBO NGOBO was into the SKA scene. Rico Rodriguez performed some tracks with the band which made NGOBO NGOBO very popular overnight.

GERMANY IS SAID TO HAVE ONE OF THE LARGEST SKA AUDIENCES IN THE WORLD. WHAT IS THE GERMAN SKA SCENE LIKE TODAY & WHAT ARE SOME BANDS YOU FEEL ARE WORTH MENTIONING?

I think it's true to say Germany has one of the biggest SKA-scenes in the world today. Concerts and festivals are very well attended and most of the bigger foreign bands do one or two Germany tours a year. I don't exactly have a reason for this, but I think it all started in the later 80's when the Busters formed. They brought back SKA to the German audience which made this kind of music quite popular. We have roundabout 30 or 40 SKA bands (playing live) in Germany. Bands I myself really like are Messer Bourzani, Yebo, No Sports and most of all the Frits, who are brilliant.

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT ALL THE NEO-NAZI VIOLENCE IN GERMANY THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS? HAS IT CAUSED A LOT OF PROBLEMS FOR NON-RACIST SKINS THERE?

Neo-Nazism in Germany is a hot topic. I myself am tired of discussing it again and again. Media in Germany blame the "the skinheads" for all that happens. Anybody who is concerned in skinhead history, skins today and Neo-Nazism itself knows that this isn't the whole truth. But of course these accusations cause lots of trouble for non-racist skins here.

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR INFLUENCES & FAVORITE BANDS?

We're mainly influenced by all these 60's bands like Maytals, early Wailers, Skatalites and on the other hand bands like Madness who made SKA more popular than many bands before. But musical influences are important at the start of a band, when you try to sound like your idols. After some time you're more influenced by yourself (i.e. by your band members and their musical ideals and styles).

ARE YOU PLEASED WITH YOUR NEW SINGLE "I FEEL FINE"? HAS IT BEEN WELL RECEIVED?

Our single "I Feel Fine / Good Fine Day" is not really that new. We released it in May 92. As far as I know it's been received very well, especially in England and some states of America, where several radio stations play the tracks in SKA features.

WHAT GIGS HAVE BEEN YOUR BEST & WORST SO FAR?

Hard to say. We played a gig in Saalfeld / East Germany that was attended by about 300 people. They liked the concert (so we were told) but no one danced or even clapped their hands, so we left the stage after one hour and never came back. But this happened some months after the wall was broken down, when people from East Germany didn't really know how to behave at concerts. (They had to clap for more than 40 years under the socialist regime, so they might be tired of it...I don't know.)

WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES & JOBS BESIDES THE BAND?

Most of the band members are students, our hobby (so far) is the band.

DO YOU LIKE ANY AMERICAN SKA? IF SO, WHO ARE YOUR FAVORITE ARTISTS?

I don't know much about American SKA. We played on gig with the Toasters when they were here but they sound rather hard and fast to me (like most German SKA bands do). I heard one song of the Dancehall Crashers featured on a Californian compilation. They sound cool and relaxed. I like that.

ARE ANY MEMBERS OF NGOBO NGOBO SKINHEADS? WHAT IS YOUR RELATIONSHIP LIKE WITH THE SKINS?

We don't have any skinhead band members. When we started playing SKA we didn't even know there is any connection between SKA and Skins. We have about 90% "normal" people in our audiences, but it's always very nice to play SKA standards like Shanty Town or Skinhead Moonstomp and to see the rude boys in the front row singing the lyrics word by word. No doubt they're our truest fans.

ANY BAND MERCHANDISE FOR SALE?

merchandise for sale: shirts, tapes, posters, buttons, stickers...

for information contact: HEATWAVE c/o Ralf Walther

Forlenweg 5 / 6900 Heidelberg / Germany

WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE PLANS?

We do some new recordings in April / May which are released on our new CD in August. The CD includes about 13 tracks (own songs only) and we might release a single with one extra track not featured on the CD in July. In July we play a rather big festival in Speyer (Germany) with Hot Knives and Inner Circle.

ANY CLOSING COMMENTS?

I hope that the CD-buying kids of today find out that there is another kind of music than the over-produced and boringly perfect stuff of the big ones like Madonna, Michael Jackson and so on. Hand-made music like Punk or SKA with no big record company in the background is rising up more and more and it's worth it.



Behind all the glory is usually a record label or distributor. Having overlooked these vital people we feel they deserve just as much credit as the bands. Well at least labels that don't rip bands off!!! As a regular feature we will interview various record labels. For this premier issue we decided to start with a label that is really making a good name for itself: STEVE PRIEST FAN CLUB.

FIRST OFF WHERE EXACTLY DID THE NAME "STEVE PRIEST" ORIGINATE?

Steve Priest was the Bass player for The Sweet.

HOW LONG HAS SPFC BEEN IN OPERATION?

Since 1988 when it started as a fan club for Steve Priest.

WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO START A RECORD LABEL?

I started with an international hardcore cassette label in 1985. It naturally progressed into a record label, putting out music I like.

HOW HAVE YOU MANAGED TO KEEP YOUR PRICES SO CHEAP ON EUROPEAN RECORDS?

The prices would be cheaper if my production costs were less. The color sleeves and good quality doesn't come cheap. Your little buddy over there at ROR presses 1,000's of most of his titles. They cost him \$1-\$2 each to make when that large of quantity is produced.

YOUR LABEL IS ONE, IF NOT THE ONLY LABEL THAT DEALS WITH JAPANESE OI BANDS. HOW A DID THAT COME ABOUT?

There's other labels who have done Japanese bands in Japan and Europe. They contacted me.

IN YOUR OPINION WHO ARE SOME OF THE TOP OI BANDS AROUND TODAY?

My favorites are Condemned 84 and Bull The Buffalos.

DO YOU THINK THAT JAPANESE OI WILL BE A MAJOR INFLUENCE IN THE OI SCENE IN THE YEARS TO COME? IF NOT ALREADY?

Probably. I know a lot of people in European bands who really like the Japanese music. Some may not admit it, but I think it's become a two way street with influences.

DOES THE PERSONAL POLITICS OF A BAND MATTER TO YOU?

Personal politics don't matter, but I don't want to represent power bands because the records are harder to sell to stores and I don't support those beliefs.

POLITICAL BANDS SUCH AS SLEDGEHAMMER, DO THEY GET HASSLE FROM THE AUTHORITIES IN THEIR COUNTRY?

I doubt it. I don't really know.

DO YOU HAVE ANY TROUBLE GETTING THE JAPANESE STUFF INTO THE U.S.?

No. Tokyo is really close. Air mail takes 2-3 days!

I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT 'EPICENTER' BOUGHT ABOUT \$300 WORTH OF YOUR RECORDS! ANY COMMENT? (THEY PROBABLY THOUGHT THAT SINCE YOU ARE FROM SEATTLE THAT IT WAS GRUNGE!!!!)

They kept all the Japanese stuff as "Curio items" anything else (Thanks to your little buddies at MTV) is pretty much regarded as "Hate Rock".

WHAT WAS ONE OF YOUR BEST RELEASES AND WORSE?

My favorite is the Bulls lp. Don't have a worst one!

ANY FUTURE RELEASES PLANNED? ANY OTHER PLANS IN THE MAKING?

The next records to come out will be 45s. A SledgeHammer 3 song ep of their older stuff when there was 2 punks in the band. It's incredible!! And probably before that, A Straw Dogs 45 titled "Millions like you" B/W "Another world". The Bad Vultures are back & should record a full length lp in September. Also a Seattle garage compilation 12" with The Fallouts, Night Kings, Sick & Wrong, Statics, Flathead and others.



BOOK REVIEWS

THE COMPLETE RICHARD ALLEN VOLUME 2: by Richard Allen

S.T. publishing serves up 3 more Richard Allen novels in a single volume, all dedicated to the female persuasion. "Skinhead Girls", "Sorts", and "Knuckle Girls". Just like volume 1 in this series there's all the sex and violence one could hope for rolled up in somewhat inconsistent plots that leave some loose ends untied. "Knuckle Girls" is the stand out of the three. The main character Ina Murray, reminds me of a feisty ex skinhead girl that I know. The skingirl on the cover is Noelle Cutler from Texas, winner of the Ms Skinhead 1993 contest sponsored by Skinhead Times, Stylin! S.T. Publishing (Perry)

WATCHING THE RICH KIDS- by Arthur Kay

This book is the autobiography of Arthur "Kay" Kitchener. A talented musician who made a name for himself in the skinhead circles through his work with the Lastresort and Arthur Kay & The Originals. The text is well written and covers everything from childhood in South London- to his long musical career. From hard mod-bands in the 60's to The Originals and the Lastresort to pub rock bands like the Balham Alligators plus his experiences with reform school, prison, and alcoholism. This should be required reading for all aspiring musicians. A great look a life on the backstreets of rock n roll. S.T. Publishing (Perry)



FANZINE REVIEWS

BRONCO BULLFROG: #2

Boisterous, Bullshit, Vacant Lot, Erase Today, Iskambila, 100 Men, Skarface, Durango 95, lots of news, reviews etc. \$3.00 Mark Brown, Apartado de correos, 1474, 07800 Ibiza(Baleres) Spain.

SKINHEAD TIMES: #10

Ms Skinhead contest (pt.2), Mark Brennan, tons of news, reviews, classified ads... \$2.00 S.T. Publishing, P.O. Box 12, Dunoon Argyll, PA23 7BQ, Scotland.

LAST CHANCE: #14

Interviews with Triebtater, Ian Stuart, Vacant Lot, and Peggior Amico. Plus record and video reviews. And a finnish scene report. \$3.00 P.O. Box 534, Chelmsford, Essex, Cm1 2RN England.

SOS-BOTE: #13

Public Toys, Zundstoff, Condemned 84, Oxblood, Lots of news, reviews, etc. Free! Scheffold, Postfach 2211, 7990 Friedrichshafen 1, Germany (German).

SKINBEAT: #2

Agent Bulldogg, The Bruisers, Intensified, Springtoifel, Pressure28, Klasse Kriminale, Rangerskins article, news, and reviews. \$3.00 Kalle Silvennoinen, Nuijapolku 204, 01650 Vantaa, Finland.

UNITED FRONT UPDATE: #3

Fear, Stormwatch, The System, Bruisers, Brutal Bois, Headwound, outface, Integrity, Skinnerbox, The Insteps, Letters, photos, reviews, scene reports etc. \$2.00 United Front, P.O. Box 73750, Ft. Bragg, NC 28307.

LE PETIT TONDU: 2

Springtoifel, The Herbets, Moon Hop zine, Agnostic Front, record, movie(x-rated) and video reviews, photos. Thierry Greiner, 52 Rue Des Sablens, 91540 Echarcon, France (French).

THE BRUISERS

The Bruisers are a band that probably all of you are familiar with by now, so I'll spare you a long introduction. We would like to thank Jeff for doing a second interview since the first one meant for "Welcome to the Real World" wasn't used and wasn't returned to us as promised and for the quick reply. Interview by Perry.

I KNOW YOU'VE RECENTLY CHANGED BASS PLAYERS. WHAT IS YOUR NEW LINE-UP?

The current Bruisers line-up is as follows: Al Barr - vocals, Jeff Morris - lead guitar, Dan Connors - drums, Richert Wimert - rhythm guitar & Keith "Ritchie" Richard on the monster bass.

I'VE HEARD THAT YOU ARE WORKING ON AN ALBUM. WOULD YOU TELL US MORE ABOUT IT?

That's right, we've been working on the new CD / Cassette for quite some time and now we've decided to take it on as a full-time job. We're taking the entire summer off from playing gigs in order to devote our attention to writing and recording the new material. I'm sure there are some real Bruisers fans who haven't heard enough of Intimidation or Independence Day and American Night, but we're sure sick of playing that stuff. By the time we play out again in the fall there will be plenty of new songs to keep things interesting. There's going to be a new slant on our next project that people are either going to love or hate, and that's O.K. I don't mean to scare anyone who thinks they're going to waste \$8 on our new CD only to find out we sound like Sick Of It All or something, that's not going to be the case. It's just better, more involved songwriting with (hopefully) better musicianship as well. Let's just say if you like our stuff so far you won't be disappointed, and if you hated our earlier stuff, you might be surprised.

DO YOU HAVE ANY PLANS FOR A TOUR? A WHILE BACK YOU MENTIONED THAT YOU MIGHT BE DOING SOME EUROPEAN DATES, ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS?

We've been talking about touring with different major acts, but like I said, we've put all that on the shelf for at least the summer. In the fall we hope to be on the road to play places we've never hit.

OII DEFINITELY SEEMS TO BE GROWING IN THE U.S., ESPECIALLY OUT EAST. HAVE YOU NOTICED A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE SIZE OF THE AUDIENCES AT GIGS?

In Boston, the same people are always at the shows, and we've seen some growing interest from that scene that is usually devoted to hardcore and even ska, but honestly the shows we've played recently have been disappointing. We're not used to +400 a night, but it wouldn't hurt, you know...most of the new interest we've seen has been from overseas in France and Germany. I think MTV is showing every kid what to listen to nowadays, and only the old-school boys are carrying on. At least that's what we see here.

HOW WOULD YOU RATE THE SKIN SCENE IN YOUR AREA? ARE THE SKINHEADS UNITED OR ARE THERE PROBLEMS WITH CREW RIVALRIES, ETC.?

We've never had a problem with racist skins in the Boston area, nor is there conflict between the old-school traditional skins and the hardcore boys. The scene is too small for shit like that and for some reason, everyone seems to realize that. There are a few problems with some crews, but even that is usually limited to a punch or a kick, never more than that.

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT ALL THE POLITICAL DIVISIONS WITHIN THE SKINHEAD MOVEMENT? DO YOU FIND IT ABSURD THAT THERE ARE NAZI "SKINS" IN PLACES LIKE GREECE & JAPAN?

If you watch MTV or even HBO you have probably seen some of the recent shows documenting "Hate Music." This, according to them applies to all Oi! bands, but anybody who knows about Oi! knows that they are full of shit. There are some boneheads in every city who join their flavor of the month superior group, but they come and go faster than Traci Lords on a Saturday night. As far as whether it's O.K. that they're dividing the skinhead scene, I guess that's out of our hands, so we ignore them. Some believe that their job is to expose and eradicate these kids, but that's not our purpose in life. We've got more important things to do. They're just not worth the effort. I suppose it's no more absurd to find Nazis in Greece or Japan than it is in the U.S.A. After all, to join the group who was responsible for many of our soldiers

deaths some 50 years ago is not only ignorant but disgraceful. If the Greeks or Japanese think they have a place in the new order, perhaps they should read a little history and they'll probably realize that the Nazis had no use for them. In fact, if Hitler had it his way, they probably wouldn't be around to join his little neo-nazi boy scout troop.

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE MEDIA'S CONSTANT PORTRAYALS OF SKINHEADS AS RACIST NAZI THUGS? WHAT DO YOU THINK CAN BE DONE TO COUNTER THAT IMAGE?

There isn't a damn thing we can do to change the minds of the media. Isn't that what skins have been trying to do for years? If they're not calling skins Nazis, then bullies, or ruffians or whatever...It's pointless to fight it, just be proud of what you stand for, and fuck-em all!

WHAT ARE YOUR OPINIONS ON SKA, TRADITIONAL SKINHEADS & THE "SPIRIT OF 69"?

Where the true forms exist, they're a proud lot who have stuck to their roots. But for the most part, the scene isn't so easy to pin down. There are skins who call themselves "traditional" yet walk around in White Sox caps and Adidas, with their shirts untucked and a fu-manchu on their face. That's fine since this is the 90's and we've got our own story to tell and our own history to create. Becoming a xerox of the past is sometimes boring and never original.

WHAT ARE YOUR VIEWS ON THE 2 RODNEY KING TRIALS & THE L.A. RIOTS? IS POLICE BRUTALITY A PROBLEM IN YOUR AREA?

First of all, the cops around here have too many keg parties to break up to concern themselves with beating up good honest drug dealers and child molesters. As far as the two King trials are concerned, that's one hell of a sandwich to bite off of ain't it? Where to start...The riots were initially seen as a threat to the status quo, and therefore a very bad thing. But the status quo in L.A. where these people live is disgraceful, and needed to be shaken up. When you can't be out on the streets after 10 pm and not worry about some cop clockin' you with a 25 pound flashlight, and the guy down the hall is slapping the shit out of his wife and kids, but the cops won't do anything about it because it's a black hood, or when your brother or sister gets their head caved in by some cop's club for jaywalking in the wrong neighborhood, then yes, civil disobedience takes on a valid justification. Whatever happened to the stores and people in the area of the riots was unfortunate, and in some cases tragic but the cause and rage behind the acts were justified.

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT HARDCORE? DOES IT HAVE A PLACE IN THE SKINHEAD MOVEMENT?

Most skins listen to some hardcore, and why the hell not? There are bands like AF who are worthy of their skinhead following. Then there are bands who don't deserve anything more than the 12 year old grunge puked at their shows. You draw the line where you want...

ARE THERE ANY UP & COMING BANDS YOU FEEL ARE WORTH MENTIONING?

Absolutely...Pist-N-Broke from Detroit are great, as are any of you at the recent Atlanta Oil-Ska! Fest already know. In fact they're here today recording their first cassette and 7" EP for Sonic Aggression. Also, the System are a good traditional Oil! band from New Hampshire.

WHAT ARE YOUR OCCUPATIONS BESIDES THE BAND?

We all enjoy shovelling shit and removing asbestos without breathing apparatus whenever possible, but when we can't, we do these various things...Al works in a restaurant as a prep-cook, Jeff makes printing inks in a factory, Dan is also a cook, Ritchie is at a pizza joint and Rick sometimes works as a security guard.

YOUR FIRST RECORD WAS ON "PATRIOT RECORDS" RUN BY CHOKE OF SLAPSHOT. HOW WAS YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THAT LABEL? WHY DID THEY GO OUT OF BUSINESS?

We gave Choke a demo in '88 of some stuff we had recorded on our own at a local studio here in Portsmouth, NH and he liked it so he decided to put out that 7". He sold 1,000 copies of it to distributors in a real short time, but we didn't have any money to re-press because he was already doing Forced Reality by then. We had no relationship with him other than giving him the reels to the songs and getting 20 or so copies of the record for ourselves. We tried to call him a few times to figure out whether or not we were ever going to see a dollar one for our efforts, but when we called he was too busy watching either Twin

Peaks or the Bruins on TV to talk to us. As far as we know, the company went under because they over-pressed and had trouble getting paid by the distributors.

ANY BAND MERCHANDISE FOR SALE?

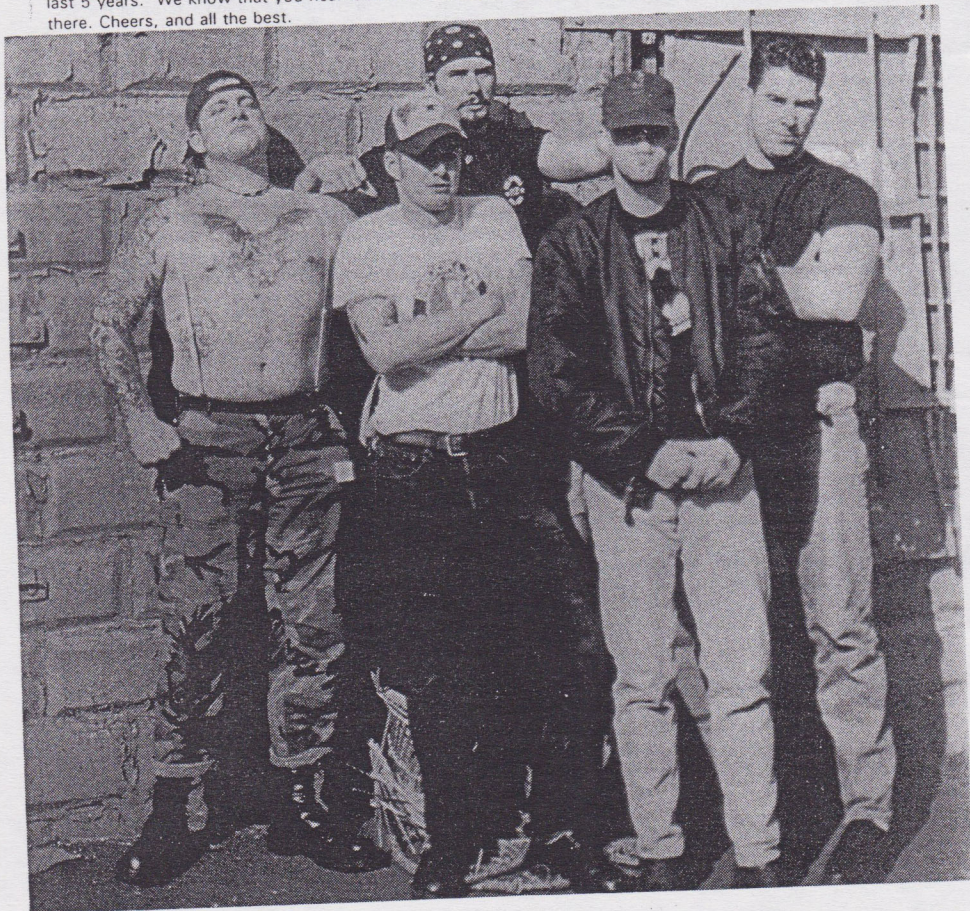
Oh yeah, we have the whole fucking catalog of T-shirts, 2 different 7" EP's, a 7 song cassette and soon the new CD / Cassette as well. Anyone interested just write to:

Sonic Aggression Rec.
253 Low Street, Suite 263
Newburyport, MA 01950

They also sell other stuff like Patriot records and T-shirts, Templars, Pist-N-Broke, System and prbably more by the time you read this. Sonic Aggression is looking for new bands ot produce, so any bands interested should send demos to the address above.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO ADD?

Of Course, thanks to Perry and Ray and good luck on the new zine. Cheers to anyone and everyone who reads it, and thanks to anyone who's written us or taken the time to come to one of our shows over the last 5 years. We know that you hear it all the time, but the only reason we're still doing it is 'cause you're there. Cheers, and all the best.



We would like to start a regular section containing letters and articles dealing with issues in today's scene, as well as society as a whole. Since this was the first issue we obviously didn't get any mail. But Perry and I agreed on two issues that affect everyone involved. Feel free to send in all comments and complaints.

The first article is a response to a letter in UNITED FRONT # 3. This rebuttal is in no way aimed against UNITED FRONT. In fact, in the original article they attached a disclaimer.

PUNKS AND SKINS UNITED...IS WRONG.

By Jack Freeland

For those of you that read this in its original format I imagine that many more were angered. It is not so much the issue but more so this young idiot's lack of understanding of a scene he claims to be a part of. Let's examine this article. More than being anti-punk it seems to be a soap box for this individual's "patriotic" nonsense. First, Jack should get his terms correct. In my opinion he is a nationalist not a patriot. He states that "Punks and Skins are two opposite groups, with different music, dress and goals". Are we to assume that words such as "opposite" and "different" to mean superior/inferior, one being better one being less? The dress may be different, but so is the skinhead dress from rockabilly, mod, and casual etc... I always thought oi was for punx and skins? At least that's what all the old bands said!

He then states that "The skinhead movement is about ideas that built our great nation". And that "Punk is about ideas this country could do without, Anarchy, tearing down the 'state' and anti-patriotism". Some would argue that if the current state fails to maintain standards and regulations, that as a patriot and citizen it is our duty to right the wrong. I never knew that great Americans such as Ben Franklin and Thomas Paine were influenced by skinhead ideas? I wonder if they were aware of it when they were fighting for freedom, "tearing down the state", and being 'anti-patriotic' against the mother country. It sounds more like your definition of punk! And I'm completely ignorant to the goals of my own subculture? Could someone explain? Or is their a "skinhead island" that I'm unaware of?

Jack's argument can be seen many different ways. "They burn and spit on the flag we have proudly waved for years" Jack separates "We" and "they", creating an "Us" and "Them". "Them" being anything that is different, alien or that is seen as an attack. "Us" is the group that Jack feels apart of family, friends, anything that does not impose a threat.

I'm getting a little off the subject. Anyway here is Jack's question(a bit of a brainstorm for him). "When's the last time you saw a neatly dressed, presentable punk"? I never knew punk claimed to be neatly dressed or presentable! So then why should he expect it. Also judging from the appearance of so many young so-called skins in the U.S. I wouldn't brag about dressing smart. For some reason baggy pants that three people could fit in at the same time are being worn by so-called skins. Along with thigh high martins and baggy shorts, complete with underwear visible. Are these skins? Or "House of Pain" idiots? I believe the latter. Then Jack says "who wouldn't be embarrassed to bring a punk home to mom and dad". Gee Wally, I hope Ward and June won't get upset. Face it Jack all people are not like you. And if your mommy and daddy have a problem with someones appearance, maybe they have the problem?

Jack also rambles on about a skinhead "dress code" that our movement is based on. If I violate this dress code will I have to stay after school! Oh fuck off! "It's how you feel that makes you real." What movement am I a part of? I'm a skinhead. Nothing more, and nothing less. And to really get a laugh, he says "Why do they all wear the same fucking thing" Oh my god, I've never heard that about skinheads! I guess jack mix matches his boots and braces. He's a crazy guy.

Well Jack now its my turn. Your neat little picture complete with Slap Shot saying allows me to draw my own conclusion. You're young 16-18. You first became a so called skin by listening to bands like Warzone, Agnostic Front, and Sick of it All, and of course Slap Shot. You took to these bands like flies to shit. Choke says something and you jump. Jack I'm sorry your idle has fallen. And Jack what are these bands you listen to: hardcore, speed metal? What is hardcore? An adjective to describe punk. Same music different style. So Jack you seem to be putting yourself down! And besides without early punk 77 & 80's skins would have never developed in the U.S. The skin scene in the states started in the late 70's early 80's modeled after England. Yet unlike England, American skins were not around in the 60's early 70's. Did you ever hear about skinheads in the stands at US football matches?

Jack you say punk's dead. Maybe in some parts of the world its changed its appearance. But I can say your wrong. If punk wasn't here, I seriously doubt a lot of bands would still be around. And if you're so against punk and claim to be a real skin, why didn't you mention soul, reggae, or ska in reference to skinheads? After all that's tradition. And "having proudly waved our flag for years" your a traditional kind of guy.

Let me conclude this article. You crossed my line by bad mouthing THE BUSINESS. Maybe that's why your a fuck because you don't listen to them? And finally if punk offends you or hurts your feelings, all that's left to say about punk is KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!!!!!!!!!

O!! O!!

(Ray)

NEVER TRUST THE MEDIA BY PERRY

Just when you thought it was safe to turn on your TV after the skinhead media blitz of the late 80's here we go again. With the rise of neo nazi violence in Germany the media are once again falling over themselves to give publicity to any nazi goon they can find; particularly the one's with short hair and big boots.

For example many of you probably saw that "Skinheads; Soldiers in the Race War" special on HBO. That program focused on a pathetic group of bald punks who call themselves the Aryan National Front. Their leader Bill Riccio, a middle aged Klansman who is now in the Federal Pen for weapons violations, claims to be a skinhead. Yet he appears throughout the program wearing a leather jacket, ripped jeans, and a Slayer t-shirt. Doesn't sound like sussed skinhead gear to me. Ideologically Riccio and his sheep er, I mean supporters have no knowledge what so ever about the true values and origins of the subculture they've chosen to bastardize. Worst of all, not one word was mentioned about the non-racist skinhead majority in the U.S., further enforcing the skinhead equals nazi idea that the general public seems to have.

MTV also did a 2 part series on "Hate Rock" that focused on skinheads. I haven't seen that program but from what I've heard it did at least pay lip service to the fact that all skinheads aren't racist thugs and some non -racist skins appeared on the program. However most of their coverage was devoted to the bald nazis among us and it probably did little to change the publics perception.

Not to be outdone, our friends in print journalism have been having themselves a field day as well, with many articles on nazis appearing in magazines and newspapers world wide. One French magazine in particular is on my shit list. Here's why...

While vacationing in Engalnd recently my friend Tom and I spent a couple days visiting a skin named Andi who organizes skinhead camping holidays under the name "Rangerskins". A journalist from the magazine Le Nouvel Observateur(The New Observer) was doing a story on British skins and contacted Andi about an interview. Against his better judgement he agreed and she came down while we were staying with him. She spent 2 hours interviewing us, asking brilliant questions like "What is it that you hate"? and "What about all the aggro"? None of us are racist or into mindless violence and she seemed disappointed that wwe weren't supplying her the sensationalist quotes she was after. I wasn't anticipating much but when I saw the story it was even worse than I expected. The title "La Menace Skinhead" (The Skinhead menace), and the photo's of Skrewdriver's Ian Stuart and nazi rallies in Germany and Hungary sum it up quite nicely. There are brief mentions about SHARP and non political skins but the right arm brigade got the lion's share of the coverage, as usual. Tom was delierately misquoted. He said " True skinheads think with their brains, not with their boots or what's between their legs", which she twisted around to say "Skinheads think with their boots and what's between their legs". Typical. At least she thought I was "charming"

In closing I just want to say that whenever you see or read a piece of garbage like the ones mentioned above, call or write the source responsible and tell them they're full of shit. It won't change anything but at least they'll know how you feel. If you're ever approached by a journalist who wants to use you for a story tell them to fuck off. They'll only twist what you say. Take it from one who knows.

KLASSE KRIMINALE

YOU HAD A MAJOR LINE-UP CHANGE WITH THE DEPARTURE OF ANTONELLA. WHAT WERE HER REASONS FOR LEAVING & WHAT IS THE CURRENT LINE-UP?

The Klasse Kriminale were originally formed in the spring of '85 in Savona, a little town by the sea, in North Italy, west coast. We belong to the second wave of the Italian Oi! bands. The band was formed by Marco who is the only original member remaining from that time. The old line-up was: Marco (vocals), Antonella (guitar), Max (bass) and Aure (drums). After a brief period of practice, the drummer went to prison, and the bassist went to live in London. Since then, the Klasse Kriminale have changed tons of bassists and drummers and in November '91 we changed the guitar "Antonella" too. When Antonella left the band, Maulio switched from bass to lead guitar. And we have a new bassist: Paolo II. Our drum player was Laurent (Bird Records) who lives in Metz, France. For distance reasons we have exchanged for Claudio, a drummer who lives in Savona. But this year, Paolo II left the band and Maulio has switched again from guitar to bass and we have taken on Lillo, a new guitarist. Now the Klasse Kriminale are: Marco (vocals), Maulio (bass), Lillo (guitar) and Claudio (drums).



About our recording: In January 1988 our demo tape "Odiati & Fieri" (Hated & Proud) with 10 tracks (8 Oi! & 2 Ska) and in October '88 our self-produced single "Costruito In Italia" (Made In Italy) with four tracks was released. In the Summer of '89, we recorded the debut album, "Ci Incontreremo Ancora Ni Giorno: (We'll Meet Again One Day) with eleven songs. The album was out in June '90 following a second single "Ragazzi Come Tu & Me" (Kids Like Me & You) on the French label, "Bird Records" in coloured vinyl and limited editions at only 500 copies. In April '91 we released two tracks on the compilation "Oi! Siano Ancora Qui" (Oi! We're Still Here). In January '92 we released our second album, "Faccia A Faccia" on the French label, "Division Nada" (A Division of New Rose). There are 14 tracks on

the album. In January '92 the Klasse Kriminale appeared on the French compilation: "Christmas Party", a 3-track Christmas compilation with Ska and Oi! / Punk bands out on "Division Nada" (New Rose). In '93 we have appeared on "Oi! It's A World League" and "Kids On The Street" an Oi! Street Punk compilation out on "Bird Records" with bands like: Blitz, Skinkorp, Red Alert, Bruisers, West Side Boys, Beck's Pistols, etc. In the future, we're putting out a new compilation for the French label, "S.P.E. Records." We've played in Italy, France, Germany, Belgium & England.

YOU HAVE A NEW ALBUM COMING OUT SOON. COULD YOU TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT IT?

We are working on the new album entitled, "I Ragazzi Sono Innocenti" (Kids Are Innocent). We hope to have it out by December '93. I think there are 12 new songs like "Propaganda", "Write On The Wall", "Youth Skins Without A Chance", "Beer, Women & Chimney", "The Girl With The Angelic Upstarts T-shirts", etc. In future months a collection album "The History Of...Klasse Kriminale" with songs taken from our old demo, singles, album and live recordings will be released on a German label, "Nightmare Records."

THERE WAS SOME TROUBLE OUTSIDE YOUR CONCERT IN GERMANY WITH BOOTS & BRACES. CAN YOU TELL US WHAT HAPPENED?

The fucking newspapers have written about Nazis fighting not about an Oi! / Skin gig. The left wing organized a march against the meeting / gig. In the afternoon the first to arrive were the police with anti-riot cars, dogs, etc. The police blocked all the streets around the place. It was like a war! The second to arrive was the left wing (near 8 p.m.) and start a battle around the place. But the police stopped them before they got to the place. I lock pistol-revolver and my thing fly on the air, but it all finished in a few minutes. The fucking bullshit journalists are responsible for all this. This is the history phenomenon in Southall. But this time the police arrived before the battle started. (Sorry for my English. I hope you understand)

WHAT IS THE SKINHEAD MOVEMENT LIKE IN ITALY THESE DAYS? ARE THERE ANY NEW BANDS (OI!, SKA OR PUNK) WORTH MENTIONING?

The Oi! / Skinhead movement today in Italy is quiet. No place to play thanks to journalists with the new "Nazi Skin Phenomenon." For us it's hard to play because to the newspapers we're a legendary Nazi band. I think you know the new band "Incivici" (On Oi! It's A World League) and an old punk band that's reformed "The Rappresaglia." It's very good ('77 sound).

HAVE YOU HEARD MANY AMERICAN SKINHEAD BANDS? IF SO, WHICH ONE'S ARE YOUR FAVORITES?
All Oi! bands are good! I like Anti-Heros very much.

YOU PUT OUT PERHAPS THE LONGEST RUNNING SKINZINE IN "KRIMINAL KLASSE." WHEN DID YOU START THE ZINE? HOW MANY ISSUES HAVE YOU DONE? AND TO WHAT DO YOU ATTRIBUTE YOUR LONGEVITY?

I've done "Kriminal Class" since 1983, that's 10 years and 33 issues because skinhead/Oi! is my and I want to inform all Oi! fans around! I want to carry on the Oi! and skinhead movement. Remember: "Don't just sit there...do something!"

YOU ALSO RUN YOUR OWN RECORD LABEL, "HAVIN' A LAUGH RECORDS." HOW MANY RELEASES HAVE YOU DONE UP TILL NOW & DO YOU HAVE ANY FUTURE RELEASES PLANNED?

On "Havin' A Laugh Records" I've done: Klasse Kriminale 7" - "Costruito In Italia", "Asociale" 7", "Nocun Convi", Klasse Kriminale album "Ci Incontreremo Ancora Ni Giorno", various artists "Oi! It's A World League" (12" & 7") with 18 Oi! bands around the world. I don't know about the future because I have some tax problems, but I realize something that's a promise.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY IN THE U.S.A. SOME TIME?

Yes! We'd like to play some gigs in the U.S.A. If you want, I arrive!



DO YOU HAVE ANY BAND MERCHANDISE FOR SALE?

All the records of Klasse Kriminale are sold out. But we also appear on 3 Oi! compilations. One record costs Lire 7500 + 800 p&p from U.S. We have two new t-shirts: one black with white writing in Lonsdale style or white with black writing in Lonsdale style. One of these t-shirts costs Lire 7300 + 600 p&p. We have a t-shirt: on front on left side a Klasse Kriminale logo and on the back an Alteau drawing with "This Is Oi!" written beneath it. This costs Lire 15000 + 6000 p&p. We also have a football scarf with the Klasse Kriminale logo and boots for Lire 70000 + 6000 p&p.

ANY LAST WORDS?

Oi! is having a laugh and having a say. Do it your way not theirs!!! And the fight goes on; and remember, it's not whether you fight, you've got to fight to win!! Thanks to all and to Perry.

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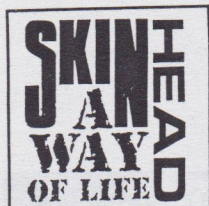
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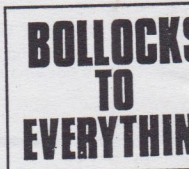
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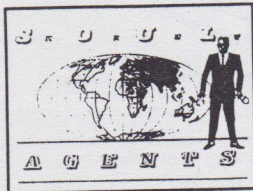
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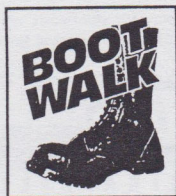
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bands, clubs, etc., Write for details

THE INSTEPS

This interview was conducted with Justin of the Insteps. One of New York's up and coming Ska bands.

WHEN DID THE INSTEPS FORM?

We had our full line-up complete in early Dec 1992. After several practices, Craig Averill of Get Smart Productions came to watch a rehearsal and gave us our first show opportunity, a gig at the Tilt with Mephiskapheles and the newly reunited Press.

HOW MANY MEMBERS ARE IN THE LINE-UP?

We had eight, which consisted of a singing duo (now a solo), drums, bass, guitar, trumpet and trombone, and keyboard.

I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU HAVE A 7" COMING OUT. ARE YOU PLEASED WITH THE FINISHED PRODUCT?

Actually it's more a single than a seven-inch, and its on Stubborn Records. We are very happy to have put out a single so quickly; we are pleased with the finished product, but we are always trying to improve and refine our sound.

HOW MANY SONGS ARE ON IT?

Two, the A-side has our biggest song "I'm the King" and the B-side has a medium tempo instrumental called "The Heat".

I'VE HEARD THAT N.Y. IS ONE OF THE TOUGHEST CITIES TO PLAY. HOW HAS THE AUDIENCE RESPONDED?

The response in N.Y. has been positive, from college kids to skinheads. I'd rather play for skinheads who are into ska and reggae since most know more about the music and are more likely to become loyal fans.

FOLLOWING UP THAT QUESTION WHAT WAS THE BEST AND WORSE INSTEPS SHOWS?

Well so far we've played with most of the ska bands and several oi! bands from the eastern USA. Speaking strictly for myself, I'd say that our best show was either our first show, the show we played in Baltimore with the Skunks, or the one at Columbia University with the Scofflaws. Our worst was in Boston with the Scofflaws and Mr. Cranky, which was due to lousy promotion.



OKAY, TIME FOR THE GENERAL QUESTION. WHAT ARE SOME INFLUENCES OF THE INSTEPS? WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR PERSONAL INFLUENCES, OR FAVORITE BANDS AND MUSIC STYLES?

As a band our major influence is early ska, especially the Skatalites instrumentals and vocal accompaniments featuring the Wailers. In addition to that, our sound includes some early reggae and 2-tone influences. I listen mainly to reggae (Upsetters, Maytals, Simaryp, Dave and Ansel, Nicky Thomas, etc.) and soul (motown and stax from the 60's) plus some oi! and punk (Toy Dolls, Cock Sparrer, Cockney Rejects). My all-time favorite band is tied up between Madness and The Jam. I also like the Pogues a lot, and I rate the Macc Lads, the Burial and Skin Deep very highly. But as a trumpet player, my influences are Johnny Moore and Baba Brooks.

HOW WOULD YOU RATE THE CURRENT NY SKA SCENE?

It's better than most around the country, with bands like Mephiskapheles, who have stormed onto the NY scene with a fury, and the Scofflaws, who just get better and better.

FOR THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW, COULD YOU EXPLAIN WHAT TRADITIONALIST UNITED IS?

Trads UTD is now defunct. A little man in a big town started a little organization. The little man recruited members from little towns behind the backs of the big town boys. The little town boys came to a little get-together organized by the little man in the big town and started a little trouble. The big town boys put the boot in and the little town boys spilled a little blood and ran home licking their wounds, while the little man spilt with a little money never to be heard from again

ANY FUTURE PLANS FOR THE INSTEPS?

We are currently searching for a singer to replace the one that has left the band and we need alto and tenor saxophonists(Bill Clinton need not apply!!). I would like to take a trip to the West Coast and eventually overseas, but that looks like it'll have to wait awhile.

IF YOU COULD GET A MESSAGE TO KIDS JUST GETTING INTO THE SCENE WHAT WOULD IT BE?

I'd tell them a few things. First, if you're out to prove your manhood and show off your nationalism, join the Boy Scouts. If you like the music and the style, that's great, but know what you're talking about, don't lie, be yourself, and respect the ones who came before you but don't let them push you around, and above all avoid getting arrested.

ANY LAST COMMENTS?

You can contact the Insteps at the following address:

Insteps c/o Justin DeCamp
90 South Windsor Ave.
Brightwaters, NY 11718 USA

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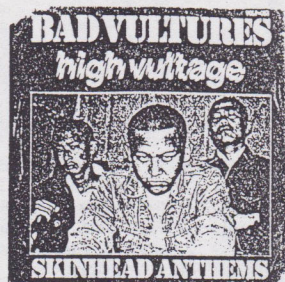
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SOUNDS FROM THE STREETS

BAD VULTURES- "High Voltage" 7" ***1/2

A new ep from one of Japan's oldest oi bands. Actually this is a 7" inch collection of some of the bands best old songs. Real clean oi, with gruelling vocals. Good mixture of fun and fury. The song 'Gang Up' is taken from their 85 ep. 'Oi Oi Power' is taken from an 88 maxi (this is the best track on the 7"). And finally 'Out of Control' that will not be found anywhere else, because it originally appeared on the legendary 'Oi of Japan' lp. If you have never heard this band, this is a good place to start. Complete with picture sleeve and some on color vinyl. (Ray)



BITTER GRIN-2 song demo ***

I'm not sure if this is an official demo. Basically this is a new Canadian oi band. If it sounds familiar, and you say to yourself "where have I heard this before"? Here is the answer. It is a new band from ex-members of VACANT LOT. VACANT LOT split up for personal reasons. The majority of the old members have started this new outfit. This tape reminds me alot of VACANT LOT. It is quite good (Unlike their soccer team, The Blizzard)Joke! I imagine we'll hear more good stuff from this band. (Ray)

BULL THE BUFFALOS- 12" SPFC rec. ****

This is it, the best release on SPFC to date. This will be difficult to top. I'm not to familiar with the origin of this band. I do know that they've been around since the mid-80's. Thsi 12" contains eight songs. I rely can't decide on the best song, everyone's a winner. Much like other Japanese oi, this is powerful with a traditional oi presence. I must admit, the Japanese stuff is really starting to win me over. One word can sum up this 12": Incredible! Get off your lazy ass, quit buying re-issues and order this!!!!!! (Ray)

SLEDGEHAMMER- "Anthems" SPFC rec ****

This isn't a new SLEDGEHAMMER 7". It's a collection of three songs from when they first started. My understanding is that the old line up consisted of 2 punks and 2 skins. I'll be the first to say, that this stuff is by far their best. Real singalong oi. Seems to be modelled after the OPPRESSED and old CONDEMNED 84. Three real fun straight up oi songs "Anthem", "Stick Together" and one to add to your holiday festivities "Merry Jingle". Once again another must have, if your into Japanese Oi. (Ray)

CAN'T STAND THE REZILLOS- The(Almost) complete Rezillos sire/warnerbros. ****

Here is a blast from the past that is a must for anyone. This Scottish band combines pop punk with new wave silliness. The cd is certainly worth the price. You two lps "Can't Stand the Rezillos" and "Mission Accomplished...But the Beat goes on". and two tracks are from a UK only released 7". The listener is left with 28 songs. The first lp is all studio, the second is live and the quality is excellent. Some of the better songs (not to say that there are bad ones) are 'Flying saucer attack', 'No', 'Can't stand my baby', 'Top of the Pops' and the classic 'Somebody's gonna get their head kicked in'. The cd also comes with a booklet giving a brief history of the band. Face it you can't go wrong. (Ray)

LASTRESORT- "A Way of Life" Skinhead Anthems Captain Oi rec ***

What can you say about this band that already hasn't been said? If you don't know thses songs by now maybe your reading the wrong zine. The cover is the same as the rare lp. The complete album is represented as well as four bonus tracks; "Stormtroopers in Sta-press", "King of the Jungle", "Resort Bootboys", and "Oi Oi Skinhead". I assume these versions are from the COMBAT 84/LASTRESORT split lp or demo versions. Total of 15 songs. My only grip is that instead of the extra songs appearing twice, why not use "Soul Boys" or "Held Hostage"? Or to make this cd real shit hot include tracks from the WARRIORS and one of the LASTRESORTS best songs off the lp "Strength thru Oi"; "Working Class Kids"! Hopefully these rarities will once again see the light of day. Also some lyrics would be nice for a change. Over all good package. (Ray)

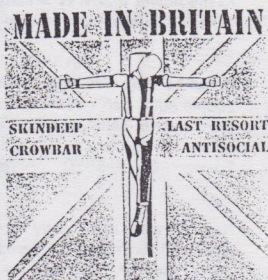


ANGELIC UPSTARTS- "Kids on the Streets" (Best of) Cleopatra rec **

Yet another best of cd package. In my opinion this release is a bit disappointing. The production is not that good. And how in the hell can the Upstarts only have 14 greatest hits! If your gonna put out a greatest hits make sure you get them all! Wheres "England", "Soldier", "Joe where are you now", "Student power", "The young ones", "Never ad nothing"? But at least the cover is good. A gruesome picture of child workers during the industrial rev. Save your money and listen to the records. (Ray)

MADE IN BRITAIN- comp 7" Bulldog Breed rec

No its not the sound track to the movie. I'm not sure that lunthead Trevor knows what oi is? Let alone that the director knows what a skinhead is? But socialist loved it! This is a limited edition colored vinyl 7" of 200. If you don't have it by now chances are you won't get it. Basically this comp features four oi bands contributing one song a piece. SKINDEEP "Boots on his feet", CROWBAR "Hippy Punks", LASTRESORT "Red White and Blue", ANTI SOCIAL "Official hooligan". This seems to be the rare oi cuts collection. The SKINDEEP and CROWBAR 7's are virtually impossible to find (original that is). And of all three ANTISOCIAL 7'S Official Hooligan is by far the best. But to pick the best song from this comp, I'd have to say that Crowbar's "Hippy Punks" stands above the rest; this song alone is reason enough to buy it. It's a real loss that this band couldn't do more. Anyway, the sleeve has a black and white picture of a Union Jack, with a crucified skin in the center. The quality isn't the best, but the music makes up for it. Buy it. (Ray)

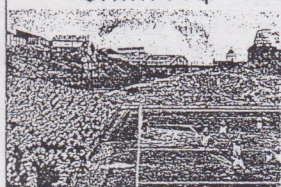


FOOTBALL VIOLENCE

Skin Deep

SKIN DEEP- "Football Violence" 7" Enemy rec.

Well it finally happened. One of the rarest oi 7" has been repressed. Its a good thing too , because some people I know were offering stupid prices for it. I heard it was going for a 3 figure sum! The reissue is good enough for my budget. First off the fold out sleeve looks as ancient as the match being played. The pictures create a good feel for the music. Three songs are present on the 7", "Boots on his feet", "Football Violence", and "Count the dead". By far the track "Football violence" is the best. If you haven't heard of this band, to give you a rough idea the sound resembles INDECENT EXPOSURE and VENGEANCE. It is also on colored vinyl and one side plays at 331/3 and the other at 45. All in all its a great package. (Ray)

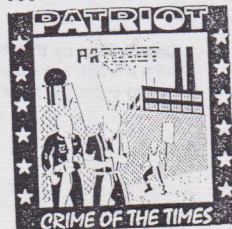


STARS AND STRIPES- "Drop the Bomb" 7" test pressing SPFC

First off when the STARS AND STRIPES lp came out I thought it was good catchy U.S. oi. But finding out that the band was a joke, and the label ripping off countless people in europe it kinda slants my opinion. Also not to bust every 17 year old hardcore kid's bubble but Jack 'Choke' Kelly is a bit of a hypocrite. Makes it further difficult. Anyway back to music. This isn't new. it was recorded around the same time the lp was, it just never surfaced. The 7" resembles the lp in everyway, musically and vocally. Two songs "Drop the Bomb" and "Time to Live". "Drop the Bomb" is by far the better track. And everybody that enjoys reading material such a Soldier of Fortion and who moshes to S.O.D.'s "Fuck the Middle East" will enjoy these lyrics. "Fuckem all who'll miss the middle east" It boils down to this if you like "Shaved for Battle", you'll like this. (Ray)

PATRIOT- "Crime of the Times" 7" Sonic Aggression rec

I'll be the first to admit(or apologize) that when it comes to oi-core, I get a little closed minded. To be honest I get alot close minded, I think it is shit. But with this 7" I must confess my ignorance. I was first given their demo about a year ago and didn't care for it. Finally getting around to listen to the 7" is a different story. Its really good. They've seem to moved to a more powerfull oi sound. And they have some good well rounded solid songs. The 7" includes three songs; "Big Mouth", "American Crew", and "Crime of the Times". If you like U.S. oi, then you'll need to pick this one up. I also acquired a live tape of theirs with two songs "Rat Race" and "Proudly we



stand". In my opinion these two songs are much better than the 7", they may even see vinyl one day. (Ray)

THE TEMPLARS- "Poor Knights of Acre" 7" Sonic Aggression rec ***
The long awaited 7" is finally out. Four oi melodies styled in the TEMPLAR fashion. The 7" contains "I've heard it all before", "The right to work" (not a cover), "Who's the real threat" and "War on the Streets". Musically the 7" rocks, but I must admit that I was disappointed in the production. It could have added alot to the power that was already there. But if you don't mind it raw, then there is no problem. And I'm an asshole for bringing it up! Good sleeve complete with plenty of pictures and lyrics. (Ray)

RABAUKEN- "Warte, Warte Nur Ein Weilchen..." Lp Dim rec ***
Debut Lp from this highly rated new German band. Pure old style oi with a hint of folk and ska present on a couple cuts. Can't comment on the lyrics cause their sung in German but the music is not too far removed from early oi bands like THE STRIKE or maybe CRIMINAL CLASS. I can't say they are as good as those bands but this lp is worth a listen, 12 songs. Great sleeve and my copy is on white vinyl! Dim Rec.
Postfach 1718, 8630 Coburg, Germany. (Perry)

SECTION 5- "10 Years" 7" SPE rec ****
Now were talking! Finally some new material from one of the best bands around. "Ten Years" is a great slice of street rock n roll passionately sung by Tosh. The man can sing, no doubt about it! "We're Back" is a bit more laid back, but still good. Hearing this really wet's my appetite for a new album from these guys. How about it? Oh yeah for those of you out there who question their political outlook. Here's a quote from the sleeve: "We're not nazis, we're not commies, and never will be" Nuff said. \$6.00 SPE BP 20, 94251 Gentilly Cedex, France. (Perry)

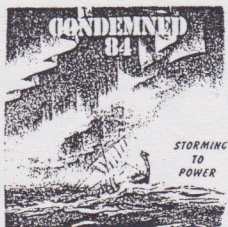


ANOTHER MAN'S POISON- "I spit on my fist" 7" Tic Toc rec ***
This is the second release from Britain's top new oi band and it kicks ass. Both songs are full of aggression without sacrificing melody. The production is much better than on their first single and you get a picture sleeve this time as well. Definitely worth picking up. This band will go far. Steve Byatt, 14 Mint Road, Wallington, Surrey, SM6 0TY, England. (Perry)

INTENSIFIED- "Marguerita" 7" Swing Easy rec. ***
I had heard alot of good things about this up and coming British ska outfit and after hearing the single they live up to the hype. I'm not a fan of many modern day ska bands but I really dig the 2 songs on this single. Great swinging easy listening ska highlighted by smooth vocals and sharp brass. Great! Steve Harrington, 82 Church Road, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3EN, England. (Perry)

OI ITS' A WORLD LEAGUE- Comp lp Having a Laugh rec ****
This is the first ever world wide oi comp lp and it totally rules! The layout is exceptional. A gatefold sleeve with excellent cover art by Alteau of THE HERBERTS. Photos of each band and lyrics to all songs written in english. It even comes with a poster! As for the music you get an lp plus a bonus 4 track 7" full of the best oi bands around today. Classic tracks from oi legends THE BUSINESS and THE 4SKINS plus modern day favorites like, KLASSE KIMINALE, WEST SIDE BOYS, AGENT BULLDOGG, & ANTI HEROES. 18 bands in all. A must for any self respecting oi collection. \$18.00 Marco Balestrino, Via Nizza 43/4, 17100 Saveno, Italy. (Perry)

ASOCIALE- "Novum Comum" 7" Having A Laugh Rec **1/2
Debut single by this Italian band. 2 songs of basic oi. "No Politics Just Oi" is definatly right on the money with it's anti extremist message and "Hoxton Tom for President" is alot of fun as well. All in all not a great record but it will have you singing along after a few beers. (Perry)



CONDEMNED 84- "Storming to Power" lp Rock-o-Rama

For some this is the long awaited album. But for me I was not to impressed. But "Face the Aggression" is a tuff act to follow. The songs are still in the C-84 genre, but the cheesy metal parts need the boot. What really gets me is if these songs were done the same as previous releases we would be looking at an excellent oi lp. As for lyrics it would be nice to see some different topics covered for a change. More songs about not giving in and patriotism. I really don't want to slag this off, its just a bit different for my taste. I do not want to rate this one. Some people may enjoy the lp, I'm still caught in the past. I thought the lp cover was in poor taste. Another viking ship! Listen to it and judge it for yourself.

BRITISH OI- WORKING CLASS ANTHEMS LP Hammer rec

This lp is the first new British oi comp for quite some time. Its' said to be non political but a couple bands on this lp seem to have some pretty dodgy views. However there's no political sloganeering on here so let's drop the subject shall we! Anyway tis a very professional looking record. Great sleeve complete with photos and contact address of all the bands featured and a spot on essay to boot. As for the music you get 2 songs each from 8 bands. From established oi veterans; SECTION 5, CONDEMNED 84, CLOSE SHAVE, and RESISTANCE(remember RESISTANCE77?) to up and coming contenders like BOISTEROUS, PRESSURE 28, STRAW DOGS and BLANK GENERATION. Choice cuts include SECTION 5's rousing "See through the eyes", both songs by CONDEMNED 84 and BOISTEROUS but the real surprise for me is the two CLOSE SHAVE songs "Can't Get away" and "Rollin' On". Excellent rock influenced stuff that blows away any of their previous material. Over all this record is a must have for any true oi fan. (Perry)

ANTI PATIK-"Trouve Ta Force Dans La Oi..." demo

Decent oi oi music by this new French band. The 10 songs on this tape are all characterized by trademark buzzsaw guitar work and grating vocals. Not groundbreaking stuff but good nonetheless. One interesting note about this band is that they have 2 female members. Zera, B.P. 239, 76003 Roven Cedex, France. (Perry)

YESTERDAY' S HEROES-Demo

Finally! Some new skinhead sounds from the western U.S.! YESTERDAY'S HEROES hail from Las Vegas, and play both Oi and Ska. The muddy recording quality can't hide the fact that this band has potential. & songs on here, the standout being the instrumental "Power Ska". Definitely worth the 3 bucks. Watch out for these guys. \$3.00 PPD(U.S.) \$5.00 PPD(Overseas) Yesterday's Heroes 419 West Bonanza, Las Vegas, NV 89106 USA (Perry)

PIST-N-BROKE-Demo

This is the first demo from this new oi outfit from Michigan and it oozes potential. Pure oi in the older British style. All songs have good strong melodies complimented by Pursey-esque vocals. This tape is not for sale but you'll be hearing alot more about this band so keep your ears peeled. (Perry)



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THE HERBERTS

THE HERBERTS are a skinhead Oi! band from Paris, France that play what can only be described as pure Oi! music, and good Oi! at that! I'd heard good things about them from two French friends that came over for a visit last summer (Hi, Elsa & Philippe!) and Alteau's trademark artwork can be found in many fanzines and records. I decided to write them for an interview and here's the result...Interview with Alteau by Perry. Special thanks to A.C. for the French/English translations.

WHO'S IN THE BAND. BRIEF HISTORY OF THE BAND.

"The Herberts" were born Summer of '91 from the ashes of an Oi! band which had been playing over a year. In October '91, the band recorded 3 titles for 2 comps: "Christmas Party" (Dans La Rue, Violence In Our Minds) and "Oi! It's A World League" (Action Man). The line-up is Eric on guitar, P'tit Manu on bass, Alteau singing, Antonella (ex-Klasse Kriminale) on drums and skinhead friends on backup, sax, etc. Since then the band has evolved and is now: Eric - guitar, Francois - bass, Alteau - mike, Flavien (Felipec) - drums, Stefany as back-up & a few friends extra. That's The Herberts in '92!

WHAT ARE YOUR INFLUENCES & FAVORITE BANDS?

All British skinhead Oi! bands from the early 80's, Street Punk from '78 & '79, Ska, 60's Reggae, U.S. Hardcore, a few bands engraved forever: The Last Resort, Four Skins, Cockney Rejects, Anti-Social, The Business, The Strike, Criminal Class, Combat 84, Oppressed, Indecent Exposure, Ovaltinees, CockSparrer, Sham 69, Menace. 2-Tone Ska. French Oi! in general: Tolbiac Toads, Snix, Boot Boys, Skinkorps, Evil Skins, L'Infantene Sauvage, Brutal Combat, etc...Eric listens to Hardcore: Sick Of It All, Slapshot, Cro-Mags, Uprise, Youth of Today, Warzone, Iron Cross, but the other 3 prefer Oi!. For the USA: The Press, Stars N Stripes, Moonstomp, Youth Defence League, Kicker Boys, Arresting Officers, (Everybody likes Anti-Heros). Also Klasse Kriminale, Straw Dogs, Close Shave, Ritan Nerada, Condemned 84, Gruesome, Vacant Lot, Bleach Boys, Molodo!



HOW IS THE SKINHEAD MOVEMENT IN PARIS? ARE THE SKINS UNITED?

The skinhead movement is in a coma. There are times when things are happening and others where there's nothing going on. In France, and especially in Paris, there are many skinheads but also alot of gaps, and few skinheads are really involved in the movement. Few are for real, but all who move and fight are for a solid skinhead movement, strong & proud of its origins, those are united and in general know each other and do not stab each other in the back.

WE'VE HEARD THAT SKINHEADS IN PARIS HAVE PROBLEMS WITH "SKIN HUNTERS." WHAT'S THE STORY AND IS IT SERIOUS?

Exactly! I do not know how this got back to people in Chicago, but it's true that there are various anti-skin gangs in Paris. When it comes to saying that skins have problems with them, all is relative. If you're walking around with a buddy or your girlfriend and you run into fifteen Zulus, it can be a problem, but the reverse is true too! In reality, skinheads are what is most feared by all, public opinion, media, etc. As everyone is scared, they organize, make T.V. specials, write anti-skinhead articles and it's always the same thing. That's why gangs like "Ducky Boys", "Rudies Fox", "Black Dragons" exist, in fact they're losers who put on a front because in reality they are only dangerous when they're in large numbers. Conclusion: Skinheads: Hated and Proud!!

HOW DOES THE SKINHEAD MOVEMENT OF TODAY COMPARE WITH THAT OF YEARS GONE BY?

It doesn't compare! Today there are only 3 or 4 groups that are 100%. Oi! concerts are very rare, a few fanzines, a few clothes stores: London Styl; there was Chelsea also, but that's all. In the past there were many more skins who were models for us, many groups who became legendary and will never be equalled. The whole "Chaos in France" period. And once more, bands like Tolbiac Toads, Snix, Swingo Porkies marked the era. Today one must hope for an awakening in France but also in the whole world because quite a few positive things have happened for the skinhead movement.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF FANZINES?

They are the voice of skins. Many things go by them and thanks to them, many skins, and especially the isolated skins who do not live in a big city can be informed about what's going on in their movement. The histories, the interviews and especially the info are important; but when it comes to the gossip, that is not so important. Who other than zines would ever speak of our bands, our movement?

ARE THERE MANY WOMEN PARTICIPATING IN THE SKINHEAD MOVEMENT IN FRANCE?

Unfortunately no! Already there are no legions of skinhead girls in France and very few participate in bands or fanzines, etc. There were some in the past, Laurence of Zera, there are our respective skin-girls, they are at our side; but in France we never really had an internationally known figure like the Italian (and now practically English) Antonella. I think skinbirds are an important link in the chain of the skinhead movement: they are pretty, they are gentle & kind, they are smart (at least the ones who do not choose to dress like brontosaurus); those are the ones we dream of!



SKINHEADS IN FRANCE SEEM TO HAVE A BAD REPUTATION (JUST LIKE EVERYWHERE), DOES THAT MAKE GETTING GIGS A PROBLEM?

We are a young group, and an Oi! one at that, therefore few opportunities to play concerts. Also, we have changed line-ups many times, so we lost alot of time. When the older band was together we played a concert at a private party with a Mod group. A break, with a relatively important concert with Molodo,

Skaface and Bonlieve Rouge. October 24 we are to play at a friend's wedding with R.A.C. and Oi! bands: Anti-Patik, The Herberts, Force de Frappe and Plastic Gangsters. We're letting some time go by so we'll have enough good tunes in case we get any propositions. But we will never play for political organizations, no matter what they are. Nazis, communists & SHARPS have but one goal: recruit skinheads. That does not interest us. "Only patriot skinheads rule OK!"

ALOT OF FRENCH SKINHEADS SEEM TO BE GETTING INTO HARDCORE. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THIS?

Yes, alot of people get into Hardcore, it's a virus which has struck many people, to the center of The Herberts because Eric (guitar) listens to a ton of N.Y. H.C. For the other 3 in the band, it's difficult to deal with it because we don't really like this music. We can listen to some Oi!-core bands like Murphy's Law, Slapshot, which are very good, but as for the rest, we don't like it! We think it's too different from the roots of the skinhead movement, which in our opinion stops at Oi! It's a typically American phenomenon which a few French follow for fashion. It's not that great because they slack off on the "look." They all wear high tops and sweats and when you look at the Zulus who listen to rap, their gear is the same. Very far from the skinhead spirit!

DO YOU LISTEN TO SKA? HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE "SPIRIT OF 69" AND TRADITIONAL SKINHEADISM?

We like the 60's Ska alot, skinhead reggae, soul, 2-Tone, etc. It is interesting to see more skinheads paying attention to their dress rather than looking like bums. But you can't forget that we live in 1993 and that you can't deny or ignore all that's been since 1967. Too many skins announce themselves "original skins" just to pose and hide behind the SHARP label! We do not support SHARP at all because they are communists who divide the movement even more, and it's already not very united! Why always need a label? The only one that fits us is: Skinhead! We would be more "Spirity of 80" when it comes to spirit, gear, the musical power of the 4Skins who are real models from whom all should seek inspiration

WHAT DO YOU ALL DO FOR A LIVING?

Francois works for the S.N.C.F. (railroad company) and cruises in on Austin when he has money for gas. Flavien does maintenance and fixes his drums. He also puts out a skinzine: "Kids on the Street." Eric is unemployed. Alteau draws (comic books) for kids, raises his bull terrier called Nutty and listens to Condemned 84 all day.

DO SKINHEADS IN FRANCE HAVE THE SAME PROBLEMS WITH THE MEDIA THAT WE HAVE IN THE U.S.?

Yes we have the same problem. The media always reports the same bullshit about skinheads, and that has alot of repercussions on the public opinion. Stupid people believe everything you tell them on T.V. or in the papers. But all that does not really matter, we know what we are.

ALTEAU, YOU HAVE MADE QUITE A REPUTATION FOR YOURSELF IN THE MOVEMENT WITH YOUR DRAWING. WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT TO YOU: ART OR MUSIC?

I don't know if I've made myself a reputation, but if people appreciate my work, all the better. It's always a real pleasure to make sleeves for bands I like or for friends. I've been drawing since I was very young, and since I've made it my profession. I've been real happy with it. But when you do only that, it's hard to make a good living. There are times where I can't even pay rent or eat properly because you have no job or unemployment money, you have nothing! So it's a great profession, but very difficult. Art (if you call it art) plays a role as important as music, if not more, because I have to try and live off my drawings, and not so with music! "The Herberts" is mostly for on the week-ends, but I live with the music permanently when I work.

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR THE FUTURE AND DO YOU HAVE ANY BAND MERCHANDISE FOR SALE?

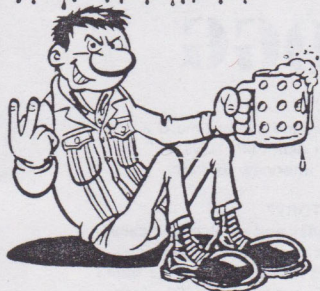
Our present projects are the recording of a 3 title E.P. which should come out in January '93, theoretically on the Bulldog Records label (ex-Chelsea Records). We are impatient to get it together because we have very little means, but we have the most important thing: faith! For the rest, we'll see later....As for merchandise, we only have badges for now, but we should soon do T-shirts, patches and stickers. Other merchandise for those interested: nice tomatoes, potatoes, leeks and garden lettuce, so write us!

ANY LAST WORDS?

Thanks to Perry (Fred's son?) for the interview and thanks to the many American skins and skin-girls who are proud of what they are. No Mess, No Fuss, Just Pure Impact!

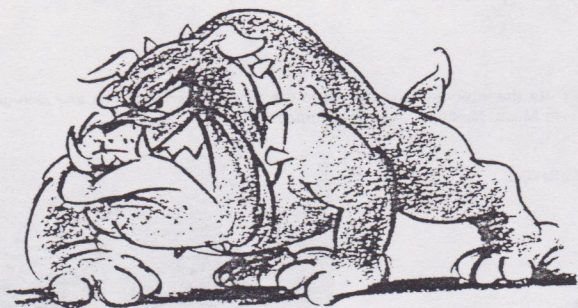
Herberts: Flavien Poret
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THE HERBERTS



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- LP Blaggers "On Yer Toez" UK group on the legendary Oi! records label. Rare/ Out of print British import. \$11.00.
- 7" Niblick Henbane "What's Your Deal?" limited repress on purple vinyl. Excellent. \$3.00.
- 7" Operation Ivy "Lint: the King of Ska" rare demos from the popular US punk/ska outfit. Good quality and cool band photos. US pressing. \$4.50.
- 7" Headwound "Kings of Beer" new ep on limited colored vinyl. Great. \$3.00.



AGENT BULLDOGG

AGENT BULLDOG is a great Oi! band from Stockholm, Sweden. They've been around a long time & are finally starting to receive some of the attention due them with the release of their debut LP, "Livsstil," which is an Oi! masterpiece. Thomas, the singer answered all of the questions. Interview by Perry.

WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT LINE-UP? COULD YOU GIVE US A BRIEF BAND HISTORY?

Well, it's me, Thomas that is, on vocals, Magnus on drums and vocals, Jarl on bass and an alcoholic called Andreas on guitar. We started as a 3-piece band in early '86 with me & Magnus as the only remaining members. Andreas joined us later in '86. In January '88 Micke left us for a hard rock career and we found a replacement in Jens. This line-up is the one which recorded the album which is out now. By '91, Jens was replaced by Jarl. Jens however stands on on additional guitar now and then.

YOU'D BEEN PLANNING TO RELEASE YOUR LP FOR QUITE SOME TIME, WHY DID IT TAKE SO LONG TO COME OUT?

First of all, after we'd recorded the damn thing, we thought "This is it, we've done it" so somehow it wasn't that important to get it out. We kind of thought that recording it was the main thing. Getting it released was secondary. Also we've always been quite lazy and preferred to be out drinking or doing something else - I was in prison for example. Then the printers and so, also took quite a while to get it pressed. Well, that's why it took one and a half years. We'll try to be a bit quicker next time.



WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO RELEASE THE ALBUM ON YOUR OWN LABEL? DID YOU GET ANY OTHER OFFERS?

I suppose we could have released it on Rock-O-Rama for example, but then we talked about it and found out that putting it on our own label was really the right thing to do---that's another reason that it was delayed. As we didn't know how to do all the things involved in the proceedings of releasing a record, still it's a good experience to do everything ourselves instead of expecting someone else to do everything for you.

WHAT IS THE SKINHEAD SCENE LIKE IN STOCKHOLM THESE DAYS? IS YOUR BAND WELL-KNOWN IN OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY?

The scene is on the way down I'm afraid. A lot of it has to do with politics which always divide people---when will they ever learn? Anyway, since there's not so many around here anymore, only about 100-200, the ones who still enjoy it seem to be more dedicated and that's good. I think we are quite known among the skins here in Sweden. But I know for a fact that we're not too popular in some parts, but that's a different story....

WHAT ARE SOME SUBJECTS YOU SING ABOUT IN YOUR SONGS?

Most of the things we sing about are things concerning ourselves and our lives. For example: alcohol, sex, alcohol, violence, alcohol and the pride of being skins, and so on...

WHO ARE SOME OF YOUR INFLUENCES? FAVORITE BANDS?

We listen to a million different bands. The ones who have influenced us the most are such bands as: Cockney Rejects, Angelic Upstarts, Madness, CockSparrer, Sham 69, Menace, Bad Manners, 4-Skins, Adicts, Blood Major Accident, Blitz, Slaughter & The Dogs, Judge Dread, and many, many more.



HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN SKINHEADS? WHAT DOES BEING A SKINHEAD MEAN TO YOU?

Me & Magnus have been skins for 9 years. Jarl was a skin between '82-'88, but still shaves his head once in a while. The same goes for Andreas, but he was a skin between '84-'90. Jens has been a skin for about 11 to 12 years. To me being a skin means being proud of what I am and what I believe in. Having a laugh with your mates, drinking and enjoying life.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF ALL THE EXTREMIST POLITICAL ACTIVITY IN THE MOVEMENT?

Skinheads should be skinheads and not politicians. Politics destroys the movement, and will probably divide us into a million different groups one day. It doesn't matter whether they are pro or against whatever as politics should always be kept at a personal level and not forced down somebody else's throat.

ARE THERE ANY WOMEN INVOLVED WITH THE SKIN SCENE IN SWEDEN?

Definitely not! There are almost no skinhead girls in the movement here---Shame!

YOU PLAYED THE "SKINHEAD MEETING" IN GERMANY AWHILE BACK. WHAT ARE YOUR OPINIONS ON THAT EVENT? DO YOU HAVE ANY MORE GIGS PLANNED IN OTHER COUNTRIES?

It was great to go there and play. Lots of nice people there and plenty of beer. The only drawback must be that enough people didn't turn up to make it go around, still there were about 400 people there. About

gigs in other countries, we played one in Finland in December. There's also been talk about gigs in Belgium, Norway and Spain. Also Finland again, but nothing is certain. We would like to play anywhere as long as we get the money for the travel---so write us and we'll come.

IS THERE STILL A LOT OF TENSION BETWEEN SKINHEADS AND THE POLICE FOLLOWING THAT SKINHEAD BEING MURDERED BY THE POLICE IN MALMO?

Well, it's not as bad as it was a year ago, but still we find it hard to accept the fact that the policeman in question wasn't sent to prison---He didn't even get a fine! However, it seems like if anyone gets the chance to do a cop he'll take it.

WHAT ARE YOUR JOBS & HOBBIES BESIDES THE BAND?

Thomas (me) works in a school. Magnus is a taxi driver. Jarl is working in an office and Andreas is unemployed (so is Jens). Our hobbies are drinking, football, more drinking, girls, even more drinking and collecting records---sometimes we also drink, and once in a while we enjoy some aggro too. But that's hardly a hobby.

WHAT ARE YOUR OPINIONS ON SKA MUSIC & THE 'SPIRIT OF 69'? IS SKA POPULAR AMONG SWEDISH SKINS?

Most of us like Ska. Andreas used to be a rudie in the early eighties. We also prefer to dress smart. Apart from Andreas that is, he has totally lost his dress sense. Ska is quite popular amongst the skins here in Stockholm, as quite a lot of them are unpolitical and for some reason they seem to prefer Ska to real Oi! more than politically-involved skins. (I wonder why?)

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF FANZINES?

Fanzines are extremely important to the scene. They are in fact as important as the bands (sometimes even more). Here we get to read about all the new bands and also about our old favorites. What records are about to come out and so on. The zines are the real press!

ANY BAND MERCHANDISE FOR SALE?

We only have our album for sale. It's available from me: Thomas Botos
Hokewsgata 8B
116 46 Stockholm
Sweden

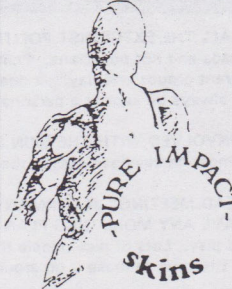
It costs \$17 in Europe and \$18 world-wide. The reason for the high price is that the postages here are extremely high: about \$7 or \$8. We have also talked about doing a t-shirt, but nothing is settled yet.

WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE PLANS?

Hopefully to secure the gigs abroad mentioned earlier, also a few gigs here in Sweden at least one with Ultima Thule. There's also been some talk of a split single with them later this year. And also record some other things for future releases. Can't give you any dates yet though.

ANY LAST WORDS?

Well thanks for your interest in the band. Keep up the good work with your excellent zine. Also hello to all our friends all over the world. We hope to see you all for a drinking session and remember "Skinhead is a way of life. Don't tell anyone how you lead yours."



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ANTI-HEROS

This interview was originally conducted about five months ago, but due to an enormous mail load plus work they were unable to respond immediately. (Interview by Ray)

WHO ARE THE OTHER ANTI-HEROS & HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN TOGETHER?

We are Mike and Joe and Phil and Mark and we've been playing since 1984.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE ATLANTA SCENE WAS MASSIVE IN THE LATE 80'S, IS IT STILL ALIVE?

Yes, it's still alive and in fact there's gonna be a Ska / Oi! festival here in two days that should attract a shitload of people.

IN 1989 YOU PLAYED WITH CONDEMNED 84, HOW DID THE SHOW GO OFF?

We played with Condemned 84 and Moonstomp and it was fun as shit. There were alot of folks there.

HOW MANY RELEASES TO DATE HAVE THE ANTI-HEROS HAD?

The "Anti-Heros Are Here" tape in 1985, "That's Right!" in 1987, "Don't Tread On Me" in 1988 and "Election Day" in 1992. We also did a tape in 1984 but we don't know where it is.

THIS QUESTION IS KIND OF HARD TO ASK, PERSONALLY I CAN NOT DISCERN ANY DIRECT MUSICAL INFLUENCES; I BELIEVE YOU ARE VERY UNIQUE. IF THERE ARE ANY INFLUENCES OR INSPIRATIONS, WHO ARE THEY?

That's an excellent question! We try to be as original as possible and we listen to everything from Motzart to Moonstomp. While we love the early 80's Oi! bands we feel that we have to define our own sound.

WHEN OI! PICKED BACK UP IN THE LATE 80'S, YOU STRUCK A DEAL WITH LINK. HOW DID YOU MANAGE THAT?

We paid for the recording of "That's Right!" and sent it to Link and Oi! Records because all the American labels told us to fuck off. Originally, it was going to be on Oi! Records but we switched to Link because we thought they could distribute it better. That was in 1986. Link put out "That's Right!" in 1987 and "Don't Tread On Me" in 1988. They also put us out on 5 compilations. Even though we paid for the recording of the first LP they never paid us a cent. An LP costs about \$2.50 to make and they sell to distributors for seven or eight dollars. If you sell 4 or 5 thousand of each one you make a shitload of money. Mark Brennan never paid us or Moonstomp or the Kicker Boys or The Glory. Jack the Lad has got a good song about him called "Businessman".

WERE YOU IMPRESSED WITH THE FINISHED PRODUCT?

We were impressed with the skill at which he ripped us off and how he's trying to sell the rights to the songs we wrote to other labels without paying us.

ON THE "U.S. OF OI!" ALBUM, LINK GAVE "WARZONE" THE MAJORITY OF THE CREDIT AS FAR AS THE OI! REVIVAL IN THE U.S. WENT. DO YOU AGREE?

I like Warzone but they're a New York hardcore band not an Oi! band

WERE THERE ANY PLANS FOR THE "U.S. OF OI!" VOL. II?

Yes there were, but we don't know what became of them.

HAVE YOU TOURED & IF SO, WHAT WERE SOME GOOD & BAD GIGS?

We toured all over the USA East of the Mississippi and the people were great. The worst experience was eating at some shitty Chinese restaurant in Gainesville, FL and all of us puking up the food during the show. They must have said: "Rets piss in the skins food."

AND NOW FOR THE BIG QUESTION, ARE THE ANTI-HEROS BACK TOGETHER? AND WHY DID YOU BREAK UP IN THE FIRST PLACE?

We broke up in 1989 because the Atlanta scene had disintegrated and we couldn't get show out of town because of the bad press. We're reforming now because we've had alot of new ideas percolating over the years and we want to make more music.

THIS QUESTION PERTAINS TO #11, THE "ELECTION DAY" 7-INCH --- WHEN WAS IT RECORDED & WHY WAS THE RELEASE POST-PONED?

It was recorded in July of 1989 and we never released it because we were broke, unemployed, had no money to and we broke up a month later. We've got the money now and so we put it out, so far the third pressing is selling quite well.

I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT YOU NOW HAVE A CD. IS IT NEW OR OLD MATERIAL?

GMM Records put out our 2 LPs on one CD with the lyrics inside that LINK was too cheap to put in the jackets. They've also got our "Election Day" single, T-shirts, both Jack the Lad singles and a long list of import Oi!. Write them for a free catalogue: GMM RECORDS, P.O. Box 15234, Atlanta, GA. 30333. USA.

WHAT ARE SOME NEW ATLANTA BANDS SHOWING PROMISE? AND IF YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW, WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO MOONSTOMP?

Moonstomp, our life-long drinking buddies, broke up right after that Condemned 84 show. But ex-members of the band are in Jack the Lad, an excellent band with two singles on GMM.

WHAT ARE SOME BANDS THAT YOU REGARD HIGHLY? COMPLETELY HATE?

We like all sorts of different music. I personally hate all this techno shit and all this pseudo-intellectual long-haired, west coast, Bill Clinton, grunge shit from Seattle. What crap. Also on the shit list: Barry Manilow, FUGAZI, all metal bands, the Indigo Girls, the Black Crows, Whitney Houston, Kevin Costner, anything from Hollywood and that Country & Western band from L.A. who is using our name!

I RECEIVED A POSTCARD FROM GMM RECORDS, WHAT EXACTLY IS THIS ATLANTA-BASED LABEL?

It's a label started by the ubiquitous Keith Pringle, dedicated to putting out good Oi! when they've got the money. They've got alot of shit on their mailing list, so write 'em for a free catalogue. GMM RECORDS, P.O. Box 15234, Atlanta, GA. 30333. USA.

WHAT DOES THE ANTI-HEROS HAVE IN STORE FOR THE FUTURE?

Some new shit this summer and maybe a tour of Europe if we can develop the contacts.

ANY CLOSING COMMENTS?

Thanks for the in-depth questions. And not to sound preachy, but stay in school and get educated because our government is about to pass the North American Free Trade Agreement which is going to ship every working class job that hasn't already been sold to Japan to Mexico. That means that everyone who can't afford to get educated is going to have no future except selling hamburgers in McDonalds. It's bullshit, but that's what they've got in store for us. And if you want you can write us through GMM. CHEERS!

C1! Here's the new GMM Records mailing list. Please allow 4-5 weeks for delivery of the European stuff 3 weeks for the American material. Look for a new Pist and Broke 7" in 3 months.

ACT OF FAITH- "Soul of One" 7" EP.

ACT OF FAITH- "Forward" 10 song Cassette.

ANTI HEROS- "Election Day" EP 3 color vinyl.

ANTI HEROS- "That's Right! / Don't Tread On Me" 2lips on one CD or Cassette

ANTI HEROS- T-Shirts 10\$

ANTI HEROS- Stickers 1\$

CONDEMNED 84- Boots Go Marching IN CD.

CONDEMNED 84- Storming to Power CD

LIE LOYAL MADORE- Arme Armee CD (Peter and the test tube babies like Ceasar C1!)

THE HEREFERS- On the Streets 7" EP (French Oi!)

JACK THE LAD- Debut 7" (Ex members of Moonstomp and C-84)

JACK THE LAD- "Burning Cities" 7" EP

CLOSE SHAVE- "Lone Riders" LP/CD

WEST SIDE BOYS- "Au Fil du Temps" CD FRENCH Oi!

THE BODIES- "Zero Street" CD

VACANT 101- "Stay Mental" CD

All inquiries to GMM Records, P.O. BOX 15234, ATLANTA, Georgia. 30333.USA

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